

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-22 are pending the application. In the final Office Action dated January 12, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 18, 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,729,592 ("Frech"). Further, claims 10, 15-17 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frech and claims 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frech in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,636,269 ("Eisdorfer"). In this Amendment, claims 1, 14, and 18 have been amended and claim 8 has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the amendments the claims and the following remarks.

II. Frech Does Not Anticipate Claims 1, 14, and 18

Independent claims 1, 14, and 18 have been amended to clarify that a signal transfer point obtains information associated with a calling communication station from a database. Frech fails to disclose or suggest the use of a signal transfer point as recited in claims 1, 14, and 18. For at least this reason, Frech necessarily cannot anticipate independent claims 1, 14, and 18, or any claim that depends on independent claims 1, 14, and 18. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

III. The Proposed Combinations Do Not Render Claims 1, 14, and 18 Unpatentable

Like Frech, Eisdorfer fails to disclose or suggest the use of a signal transfer point as recited in claims 1, 14, and 18. For at least this reason, French, and the proposed combination of Frech and Eisdorfer, necessarily cannot render independent claims 1, 14, and 18, or any claim that depends on independent claims 1, 14, and 18, unpatentable. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested. If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is asked to phone the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Scott W. Brim", is written over a horizontal line.

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